Pharmacy e-Health Information Technology Collaborative

Federal Advisory Committee HIT Policy Committee 10-20-10

Public Comment by Shelly Spiro, Pharmacy e-Health Information Technology Collaborative Director

My name is Shelly Spiro, I am the Director of the Pharmacy e-HIT Collaborative (a newly formed collaborative of 9 national pharmacy associations). Our members practice in all settings including but not limited to hospital, community, long term and post acute care (SNF, hospice, homecare, assisted living), universities, health systems and ambulatory care clinics representing over 250 thousand members. The Collaborative is focused on ensuring that technical standards are aligned with the nation's growing need for the all inclusive clinical services provided by pharmacists' in all practice settings.

The services provided by pharmacists especially administering and providing immunizations and medication therapy management (MTM) are integral to all providers using EHR in a meaningful way. Pharmacists play a key role in the prevention of Adverse Drug Events and Medication Reconciliation to assure medications are safely used in all practice settings.

The Pharmacist EHR has been developed and balloted through the standards development organizations (NCPDP and HL7) and in the near future will be going through the certification process. Pharmacists have the ability to move past the record keeping aspect of prescription processing to provide a fully integrated clinical EHR. This Pharmacist EHR will integrate with other provider's EHR and the patient's PHR to assure the practice improvements provided by pharmacists related to safe medication use is achieved.

The Collaborative has pharmacists members involved in the State Health Information Exchange (HIE) and Regional Exchange Centers (REC) initiatives. The Pharmacy e-HIT Collaborative is ready and willing to assist the Policy Committee with information related to the pharmacist's role as clinical providers into the bi-directional exchange of clinical information outside the electronic prescription process.

RESPONSE: *No response*